

**20 THE GREEN,  
ULEY,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**

**NGR: ST 791 985**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

November 2016  
Report No. 1158



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANCY, MANAGEMENT & FIELD SERVICES**

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**Quality Assurance**

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## **SUMMARY**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on 20th September 2016 at 20 The Green, Uley, Gloucestershire (NGR: ST 791 985). The archaeological works were undertaken during excavations required for the construction of a side extension and garage to the existing property. The project was commissioned by Andy Down, the landowner.

Context (1002) appeared to be a highly disturbed deposit, which contained frequent Modern material. This activity was possibly related to the demolition of a previous building within the site area.

It is likely that layer (1003) represented a former subsoil and as such it would suggest that although no archaeological deposits were present within the watched areas, the potential for archaeological preservation was good.

No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present within the excavated area.

## GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### *Archaeology*

For the purpose of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from Prehistoric times to the Modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### *Medieval*

The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and *c.* AD 1500.

### *Natural*

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

### *NGR*

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### *OD*

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

### *OS*

Ordnance Survey.

### *Post-medieval*

The period from *c.* AD 1500 onwards.

### *Prehistoric*

The period prior to the Roman invasion of AD 43. Traditionally sub divided into; *Palaeolithic* – *c.* 500,000 BC to *c.* 12,000 BC; *Mesolithic* – *c.* 12,000 BC to *c.* 4,500 BC; *Neolithic* – *c.* 4,500 BC to *c.* 2,000 BC; *Bronze Age* – *c.* 2,000 BC to *c.* 800 BC; *Iron Age* – *c.* 800 BC to AD 43.

### *Romano-British*

Term used to define the fusion of indigenous Iron Age traditions with invasive Roman culture. Traditionally dated AD 43 to *c.* AD 410.

### *Saxon*

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 20 The Green, Uley, Gloucestershire (NGR: ST 791 985). The archaeological works were undertaken during excavations required for the construction of a side extension and garage to the existing property. The project was commissioned by Andy Down, the landowner.
- 1.2 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2016). The WSI was produced in line with *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).
- 1.3 This document presents the findings of the archaeological watching brief.

## 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (**S.15/2414/HHOLD**) had been granted for the construction of a new side extension and garage to 20 The Green. A condition for archaeological monitoring during the groundworks was attached to the planning permission.
- 2.2 The site is located within an area of urban development, less than 60 metres to the east of St Giles church. The current church is of Victorian date, but it was constructed over an 11th century church, which was demolished in 1856.
- 2.3 There are two archaeological sites of note within the wider landscape.
  - 2.3.1 Uley Bury Camp, a large multivallate Iron Age hillfort is located over 600 metres to the northwest. Most hillforts of this type were constructed and used between the sixth century BC and the mid-1st century AD. There are around 50 examples nationally and Uley Bury Camp is one of the largest in the Cotswold region.
  - 2.3.2 West Hill Romano-Celtic temple complex, located around 1km to the north of the study area, was excavated between 1976 and 1979. The earliest phase of activity was represented by standing stones forming the focus of an open-ended oval enclosure thought to be of Neolithic date with ditched and palisaded enclosures and shrines of timber construction constructed in the Iron Age. The central timber shrine was replaced by one of Romano-Celtic date in the second century, which was extended in the mid-4th century. There was a partial collapse of the temple at the end of the 4th century and it was completely destroyed during the early 5th century. During the 6th to 8th century a timber church was constructed and enclosed by a perimeter bank. The whole complex was finally demolished during the 8th century.
- 2.4 Uley village is recorded in the Domesday Book as *Euuelege*, which is thought to mean clearing in a yew wood.

- 2.5 The underlying geology is recorded as *Bridport Sand Formation - Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock*, with no superficial deposits present. ([www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk)).
- 2.6 The proposals therefore had the potential to impact on archaeological finds or features. This did not prejudice the watching brief against the recovery of finds or features of other dates.

### **3 AIMS**

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological recording were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits.
- 3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:
- i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;
  - ii) to attempt to characterize the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;
  - iii) where possible to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.

### **4 METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 All intrusive groundworks were monitored and recorded in order to identify any archaeological finds, features or deposits. Groundworks were carried out under the constant supervision of the archaeologist. All excavations on site were carried out by a mechanical excavator which was equipped with a toothless bucket. Archaeological mitigation would be required should archaeological deposits be encountered. In the event that significant remains were discovered, work would cease and the archaeological advisor to Stroud District Council would be notified in order that an assessment of the remains and suitable provision for their recording or preservation could be made.
- 4.2 All archaeological investigation and recording was undertaken in accordance with the methodologies detailed in the WSI and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

### **5 RESULTS**

- 5.1 The foundations for the extension were 0.5m wide and were excavated to a depth of between 1.2m and 1.4m below the Modern ground surface. Probable natural deposits of light orange clay sand/sandstone were identified within all the monitored trenches, at a depth of between 0.8m to 1.65m below the

Modern ground level. Due to the looseness of the upper layers of stratigraphy and the depth of the excavated foundation trench, all recording was undertaken a short distance from the section edges and therefore all measurements are approximate.

- 5.2 No observation was necessary during the construction of the garage as this was to be built directly on top of a slab, with no below ground excavation.
- 5.3 The probable natural deposits of light orange clay sand/sandstone were sealed by an orange sandy clay (1003), 0.20m thick. No artefactual evidence was visible within this layer. Layer (1003) was sealed by a Modern mixed deposit (1002), of light grey brown clays with patches of a loose dark grey/black silty sand throughout. This deposit appeared highly disturbed and contained pieces of Modern paving stone, as well as fragments of tarmac, Modern bricks and broken service pipes. The northern half of (1002) was sealed by a layer of tarmac (1001), 0.05m thick, with the southern half of (1002) sealed by a layer of dark grey/black silty sand topsoil and turf (1000) up to 0.30m thick.
- 5.4 No archaeological features, deposits or finds, which predated the early Modern period, were present within the excavated area.

## **6 CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 No archaeological features, deposits or finds were present within the excavated area.
- 6.2 Context (1002) appeared to be a highly disturbed deposit, which contained frequent Modern material. This activity was possibly related to the demolition of a previous building within the site area.
- 6.3 It is likely that layer (1003) represented a former subsoil and as such it would suggest that although no archaeological deposits were present within the watched areas, the potential for archaeological preservation was good.
- 6.4 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with Stroud Museum. A short note will be submitted for publication in the relevant local journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

## **7 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

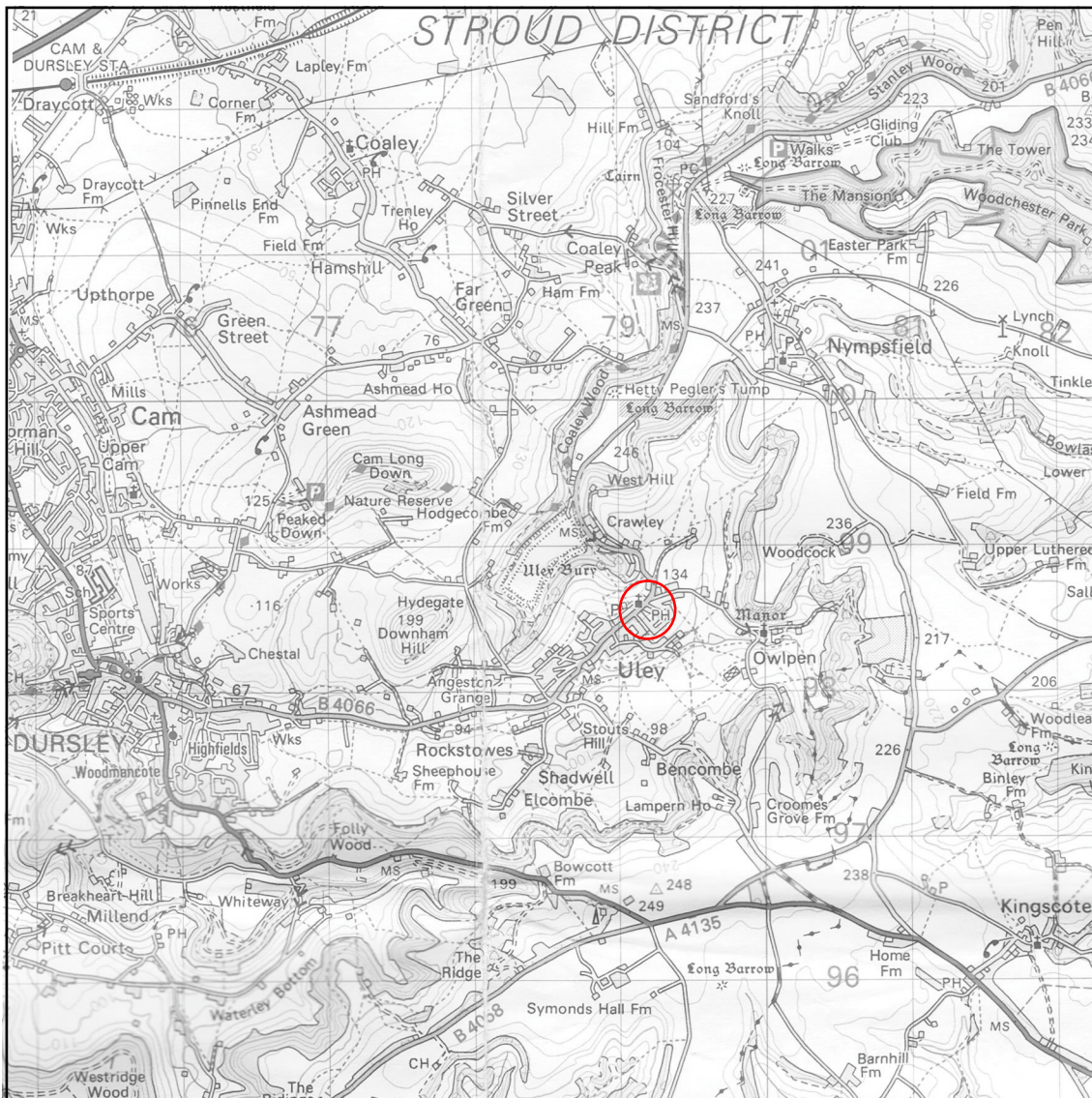
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*. Unpublished.

Foundations Archaeology. 2016. *The Green, Uley, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Watching Brief: Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished.



## **8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

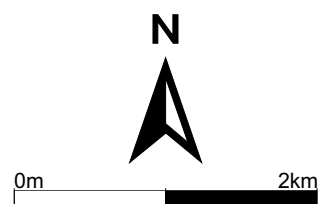
Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Charles Parry of Gloucestershire County Council, Andy Down and the on-site workers for their help during the course of the project.



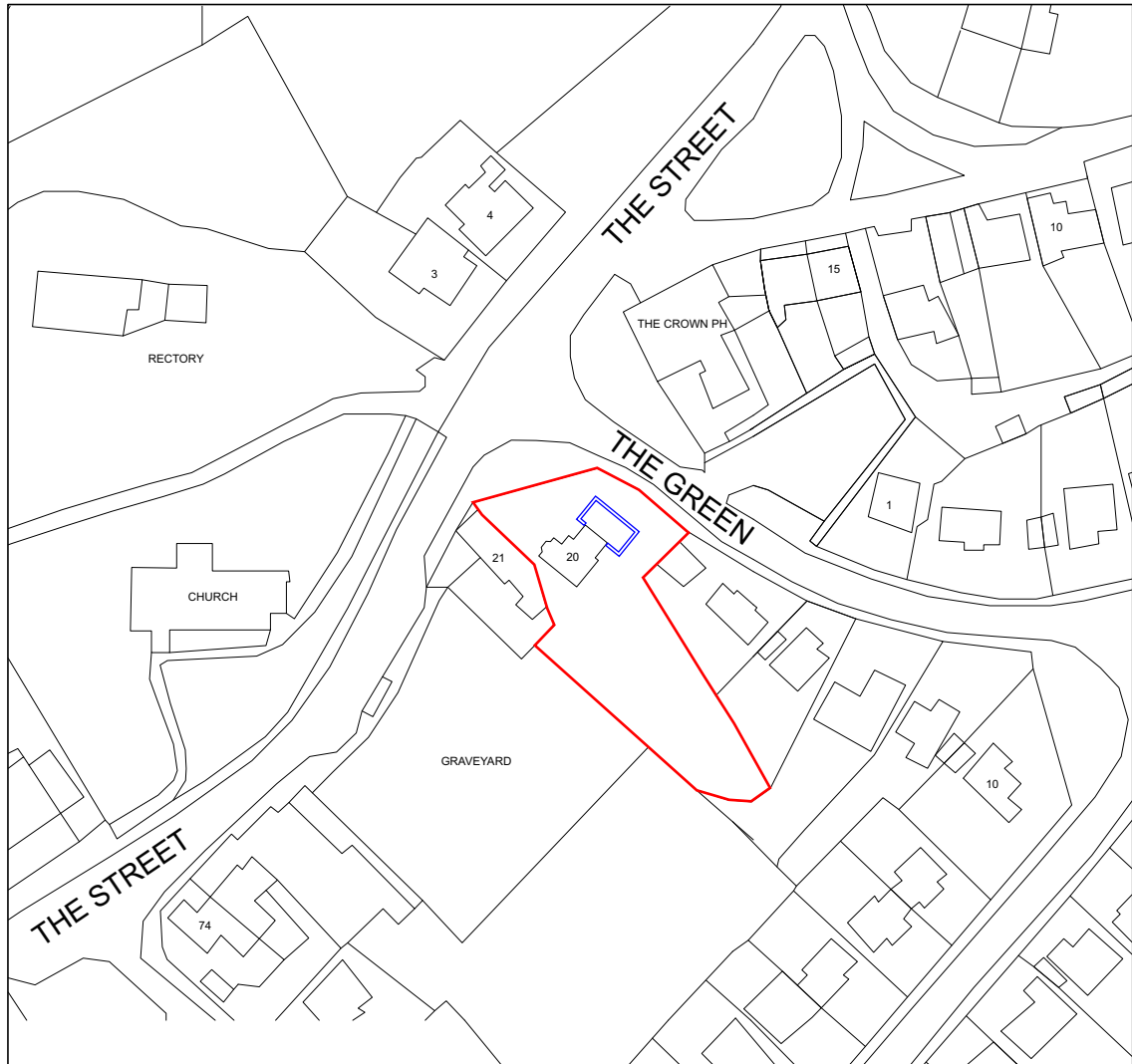
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**Site Code: TGU16**

**Accession Code:**



**FIGURE 1: Site Location**



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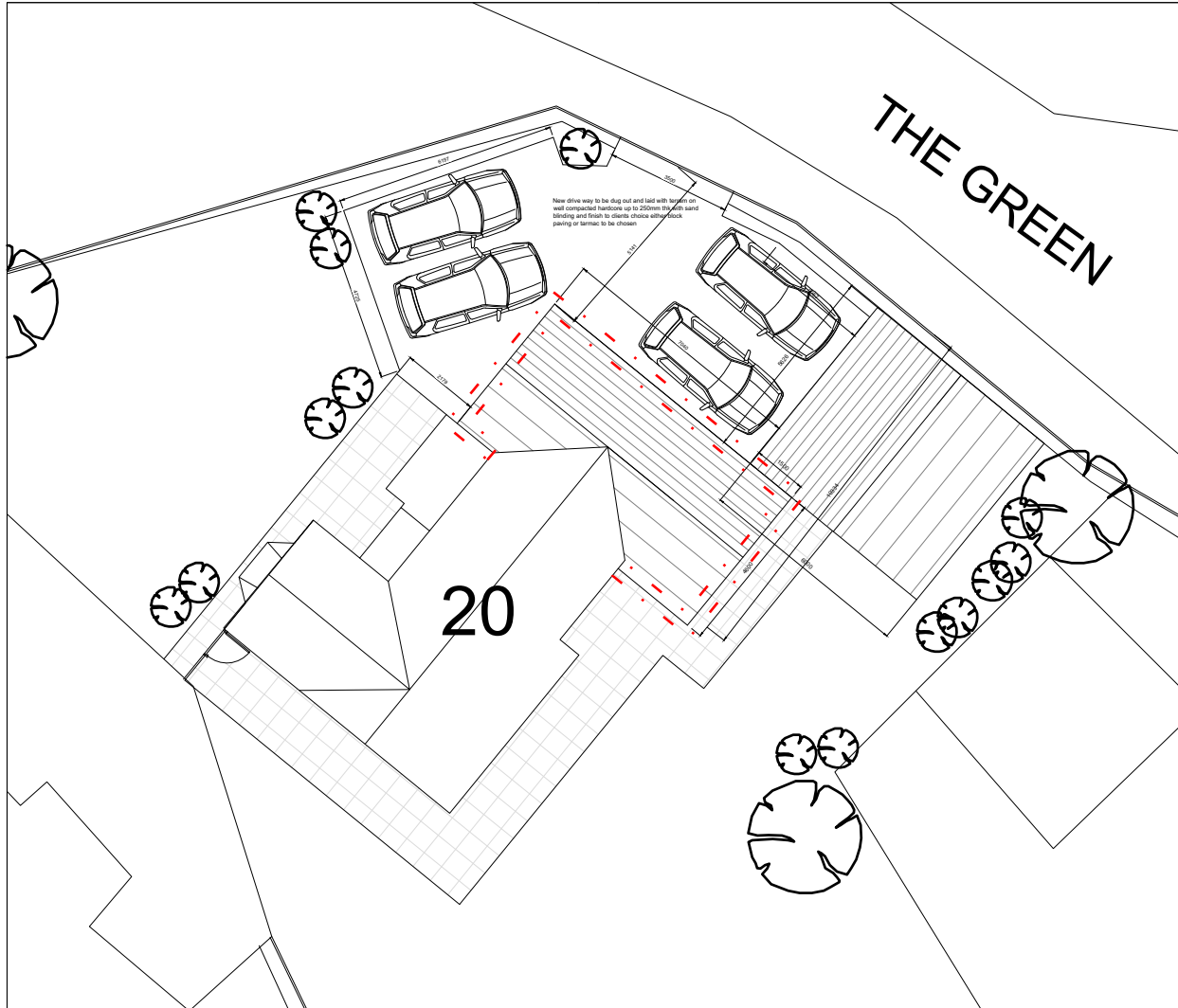
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— Site Outline  
 — Excavated Foundations



**FIGURE 2: Watching Brief Location**



BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF ANY WORKS THE CONTRACTOR MUST CHECK AND VERIFY ALL BUILDING, SITE DIMENSIONS AND LEVELS, ALL RELEVANT SEWER OUTFALLS, INVERT LEVELS, AND CONNECTION POINTS

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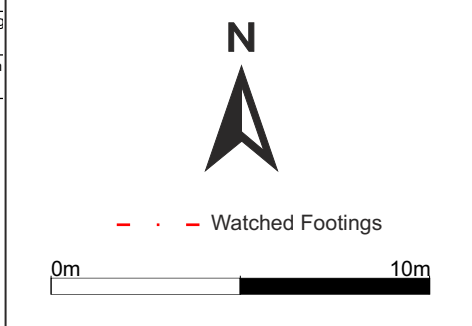
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MBS: 01452 257774  
EMAIL: info@elevationone.co.uk  
WEB: www.elevationone.co.uk

Project:-  
Works at 20 The Green,  
Uley, Glos  
Drawing Title:-  
Block Plan  
Scale:-  
1:100  
Client:-  
Mr & Mrs Down

Project No:- SD-010	Drawing 02
Date:- August 2015	Revision -

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**FIGURE 3: Watched Area**